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JC971 U.S. PTO  
09/978386  
10/16/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman et al.

SC/Serial No.: Unknown

Confirm. No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

Title: CURVED DILATOR AND METHOD

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit:

Examiner:

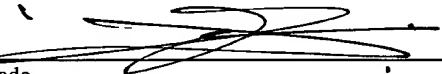
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Date of Mailing: October 16, 2001

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
Johann S. Mercado  
Signature Date: October 16, 2001

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application identified as follows:

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman, Ken Y. Hsu, Charles J. Winslow and John Flynn

Title: CURVED DILATOR AND METHOD

No. of pages in Specification: 16; No. of Claims: 46.

No. of Sheets of Drawings: 4; Formal: ✓, Informal:    .

Also enclosed are:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A Declaration.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An Assignment and Recordation Form Cover Sheet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A certified copy of a priority application.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A Power of Attorney.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A Statement Claiming Small Entity Status.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The filing fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.16 is determined as follows:

| No.<br>Filed  | No.<br>Extra | Rate<br>Small Entity/<br>Other Than<br>Small Entity |   |                 |
|---|--------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Basic<br>Fee  |              | \$370.00<br>\$740.00                                | = | \$370.00        |
| Total<br>Claims <u>46</u> - 20                                | = <u>26</u>  | \$ 9.00<br>\$ 18.00                                 | = | \$234.00        |
| Independent<br>Claims <u>8</u> - 3                            | = <u>5</u>   | \$ 42.00<br>\$ 84.00                                | = | \$210.00        |
| First Presentation of<br>Multiple Dependent Claim(s) <u>0</u> |              | \$140.00<br>\$280.00                                | = | \$0.00          |
|   |              | Total   | = | <u>\$814.00</u> |

\*If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

- \_\_\_\_\_ Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-1325 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.
- ✓ A check in the amount of \$814.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

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✓ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees (including those listed below) or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

✓ Any additional filing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.

✓ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

This application is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) in the name of the above-identified Inventor(s).

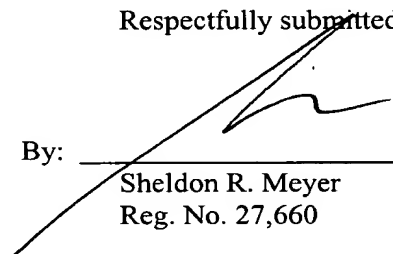
✓ This application claims priority to an earlier-filed Provisional patent application, as set forth more fully in this application.

Please direct all correspondence concerning the above-identified application to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/16/01

By:   
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